

Amendments to the Specification

Please insert the paragraph following paragraph at line 2 of page 1:

This application is a continuation of co-pending U.S. Serial No. 09/770,330, filed January 26, 2001.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 18 of page 8 as follows:

Intermediate tube 16 also includes a vent hole 22 positioned adjacent to or proximal of the annular ring(s) 18. A shaft marker 20 is provided on the distal end of the elongate shaft 12 to indicate that the vent hole 22 is properly positioned. The vent hole 22 is sealed in this position to close the vent path and define an inflation path. The inflation path is defined through the lumen 26 (not visible) of the elongate shaft 12 to the interior 28 (not visible) of the inflatable balloon 14. Accordingly, the balloon 14 may be inflated by connecting a fluid source (not shown) to a removable hub 100 (illustrated in FIG. [[18]] 25) connected to the proximal end of the elongate shaft 12.